

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 6, 8, 10 and 11, and replace them with the following new claims 38-41:

1-37. (Canceled).

38. (New) In combination:

an item of furniture;

a first structure having a first panel and a second panel; and

a second structure having a third panel and a fourth panel, the second structure being independent and separate from the first structure;

wherein:

(i) each panel is defined by a foldable frame member that has a folded and an unfolded orientation, and a sheet material covering the respective frame member when the respective frame member is in the unfolded orientation, each panel further having a left side and a right side;

(ii) the right side of the first panel is hingedly connected to the left side of the second panel, the right side of the third panel is hingedly connected to the left side of the fourth panel, the left side of the first panel is removably connected to the right side of the fourth panel, and the right side of the second panel is removably connected to the left side of the third panel, with the four panels connected together and oriented vertically to form a ring of panels that define a space therebetween;

(iii) the first and second panels have different shapes with the second panel being less than half the size of the first panel, and the third and fourth panels have different shapes with the fourth panel being less than half the size of the third panel;

(iv) each frame member forms a plurality of concentric frame members when it has been twisted and folded into the folded orientation; and

(v) the item of furniture is positioned in the space and surrounded by the ring of panels.

39. (New) The combination of claim 38, wherein each panel has a periphery, and further including a peripheral sleeve extending along the periphery of each panel for retaining the respective frame member.

40. (New) The combination of claim 38, wherein the first and third panels have a first shape, and the second and fourth panels have a second shape that is different from the first shape.

41. (New) A method of decorating an item of furniture, comprising:

(a) providing a first structure having a first panel and a second panel, and a second structure having a third panel and a fourth panel, the second structure being independent and separate from the first structure, wherein:

(i) each panel is defined by a foldable frame member that has a folded and an unfolded orientation, and a sheet material covering the respective frame member when the respective frame member is in the unfolded orientation, each panel further having a left side and a right side,

(ii) the right side of the first panel is hingedly connected to the left side of the second panel, and the right side of the third panel is hingedly connected to the left side of the fourth panel, and

(iii) the first and second panels have different shapes with the second panel being less than half the size of the first panel, and the third and fourth panels have different shapes with the fourth panel being less than half the size of the third panel;

(b) positioning the first, second, third and fourth panels around the item of furniture by removably connecting the left side of the first panel to the right side of the fourth panel, and removably connecting the right side of the second panel to the left side of the third panel, such that the four panels are oriented vertically to form a ring of panels that surround the item of furniture;

(c) separating the first and second structures by removing the removable connections;

(d) folding the first panel on to the second panel to form a first stack of panels;

(e) folding the third panel on to the fourth panel to form a second stack of panels;

and

(f) twisting and folding each stack of panels such that each separate frame member forms a plurality of concentric frame members when it has been twisted and folded into the folded orientation.